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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/612,245	07/02/2003	Mohomed Ishag Jameel	4C16.1-011	3307

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ATLANTA, GA 30342

EXAMINER

WILSON, GREGORY A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3749

DATE MAILED: 01/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/612,245	Applicant(s) JAMEEL ET AL.	
	Examiner Gregory A. Wilson	Art Unit 3749	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 21-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-10 and 32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                      4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_                      6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 5, line 25, change "use" to --used--,

On page 5, line 33, change "uses" to --used--,

On page 15, line 18, change "form" to --from--,

On page 15, entire page, change "pluming" to --plumbing--,

On page 16, line 32, change "cooing" to --cooling--,

On page 20, line 15, US Patent Application Number needs to be filled in,

On page 20, line 33, change "sever" to --severe--,

On page 22, line 1, change "crosssection" to --cross-section--.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Objections***

**Claim 3** is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Claim 3 is not in proper form.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

**Claims 1 and 2** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Booher et al (5,509,607)**. **Booher et al** discloses a sootblower (10) for cleaning internal structures of combustion devices (ie: boilers) and includes a lance tube (14) having two separately controlled cleaning fluid applicators (nozzles 52, 54), the lance rotates as it delivers cleaning fluid (SEE column 3, lines 61-63), a drive system (SEE column 4, lines 8-13), a control system (SEE column 5, lines 6-9), a steam tube (16) on which the lance tube is telescopically received, multiple steam nozzles (Figure 3) for directing steam out of the lance tube, a steam valve (38) for controlling the delivery of steam, and a carriage (18) propelled by the drive system.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 21-31** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Perrone (6,325,025)** in view of **Jones (6,323,442)**. **Perrone** discloses an automatic cleaning system and includes a plurality of sensors (12) which detect the ash

accumulation inside a boiler, and triggers a control system (16) (column 6, lines 23-36)(SEE Figure 2), which activates a sootblower (cleaning equipment ) (14) (column 3, lines 32-39) (column 6, lines 36-49) for cleaning. **Perrone** also suggests the use of a monitor (22) (ie: camera) for visual observation (column 6, lines 31-32) of the condition of the interior of the boiler, in which case a sootblower (water cannon) operation would be activate/deactivate based on the desired level of cleanliness of the boiler. **Perrone** does not specifically teach the use of strain gauges as a sensing means. **Jones**, however, teaches the use of strain sensors (166) configured to measure the weight of ash deposits within a boiler. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains to have modified the sootblowing optimization system of **Perrone**, to allow strain sensors as taught by **Jones** to be included in the design parameter of the processor (16) of **Perrone** for the purpose of measuring the weight of accumulated ash deposits and performing cleaning accordingly.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

**Claims 3-10** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Claims 11-20** are allowed.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory A. Wilson whose telephone number is (703) 308-1239. The examiner can normally be reached on 7 am - 4:30 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on (703)308-1935. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)308-7764.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.

GREGORY WILSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

*Gregory A. Wilson*

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January 6, 2004